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CALIFORNIA TREASURER ANGELIDES COMMENTS ON BUDGET AGREEMENT ON HIGHER EDUCATION SPENDING

SACRAMENTO, CA – California Treasurer Phil Angelides had the following comments today on reports of an impending budget agreement on higher education spending:

"We are hopeful that the hard work of so many students, faculty and others has paid off, resulting in a budget that restores some of the higher education funding that Governor Schwarzenegger had proposed to cut. Thanks to that effort, we hope the budget restores some of the state support for University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) outreach programs that help economically disadvantaged students prepare for college, and that it eases the Governor's proposed enrollment cap that has turned away thousands of qualified students from the UC and CSU systems.

"Make no mistake about it. The Governor's budget proposals have placed our higher education system at risk, and our work will be cut out for us next year. There is much still left to be done to ensure that California has the first-class university and college system that our young people deserve and that our State needs to be competitive in the global economy. We must redouble our efforts to restore funding to critical areas such as financial aid and academic programs, and we must continue our fight to stop UC, CSU and community college fees from spiraling out of control."